

	Agency Name	Department of Social Services (DSS)
	Chapter No./Name	DSS Departmental Memoranda
	Part No./Name	2008
	Section No./Name	2008-12 Appointment of Executive Staff
	Document No./Name	2008-12 Appointment of Executive Staff
	Effective Date	November 3, 2008

I am pleased to announce three key appointments in the Office of the Secretary: Amy Colby as executive counsel, Trey Williams as communications director and strategic advisor, and Courtney Baker as legislative director.

These are exceptional individuals who have answered the high calling of public service by accepting key appointments in the Office of the Secretary. They are committed to advancing the department's mission of guiding individuals, children and families toward independence and safety, and we are fortunate to have them at DSS.

Before joining DSS, Colby served in the Public Defender's Office representing children, as well as a solo practitioner specializing in family law, in the 23rd Judicial District Court. Previously, Colby served as a foster and adoptive parent trainer with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Colby currently serves on the governing board of directors for Child Advocacy Services and is past president of the 23rd JDC Bar Association. Colby earned a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M and a juris doctor from Northern Illinois University College of Law at DeKalb, Ill.

Williams, a longtime aide to Governor Bobby Jindal, served as communications director for the Governor after filling the same slot in Jindal's congressional office. Williams has also served as executive director of the Louisiana 4-H Foundation, deputy press secretary for Governor Mike Foster and legislative correspondent for Congressman Jim McCrery. A native of Minden, La., Williams earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Louisiana Tech and a master's degree in mass communication from Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge.

Baker has most recently served as executive assistant to the deputy chief of staff and director of policy and planning under Governor Bobby Jindal. Previously, Baker served as administrative assistant and scheduler to Governor Kathleen Blanco, as well as manager of constituent services under Governor Mike Foster. A native of Alexandria, Baker earned a bachelor's degree in biological science from Southern University in Baton Rouge.

Kristy Nichols
DSS Interim Secretary